

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of managing workflow in a commercial printing environment including a designer location and a print service provider location, said method comprising:

establishing a link to the print service provider location from the designer location and obtaining updated device information including functional capabilities of a desired printing device and at least one production device;

automatically pre-flighting a received document file, including automatically checking for common errors associated during a prepress stage, automatically revising incorrect printing instructions and automatically adding missing printing instructions to the received document file;

dynamically and automatically creating a document profile for the document file based on specific requirements defined at the designer location and particular capabilities of devices at a print service provider location and applying the dynamically created document profile to the document file;
automatically adjusting characteristics of the document file based on the dynamically created document profile;

automatically providing a remote proofing function for a customer of the document file to be printed and automatically tracking the printing of the document file by continuously monitoring and updating a status of the document file to be printed;

creating a press ready file at the designer location using the automatically pre-flighted and automatically proofed document file and the updated device information from the print service provider location by verifying that required elements for completion of a production of a print job at the print service provider location are present in the print job based on the updated device information;

submitting said press ready file to the print service provider location via an electronic network;

verifying, at said print service provider location, that said press ready file will print at said print service provider location as designed at the designer location and, if not, correcting said press ready file to ensure printing substantially as designed; and
performing automated shipping using, if created, said corrected press ready file, else using said verified press ready file.

2. (Original) A method of managing workflow according to claim 1, wherein said step of creating a press ready file at the designer location further comprises performing automated remote shipping setup of said press ready file to remotely select the desired shipping options for said press ready file when printed at said print service provider location.

3. (Original) A method of managing workflow according to claim 1, wherein said step of verifying, at said print service provider location, further comprises performing automated remote shipping setup.

4. (Original) A method of managing workflow according to claim 1, wherein said step of automated shipping is performed and wherein an automated shipping device is used to ship said printed output in accordance with shipping instructions in said press ready file.

5. (Original) A method of managing workflow according to claim 1, wherein said step of correcting includes reading shipping instructions prepared at the designer location and preparing appropriate corresponding instructions for an actual shipping device to be used at the print service provider location.

6. (Original) A method of managing workflow according to claim 5, wherein said step of correcting further comprising updating a job ticket corresponding to said press ready file.

7. (Currently Amended) A computer readable medium encoded with a program product for managing workflow in a commercial printing environment including a designer location and a print service provider location, said product comprising machine-readable program code for causing, when executed, a machine to perform the following method steps:

- establishing a link to the print service provider location from the designer location and obtaining updated device information including functional capabilities of a desired printing device and at least one production device;

- automatically pre-flighting a received document file, including automatically checking for common errors associated during a prepress stage, automatically revising incorrect printing instructions and automatically adding missing printing instructions to the received document file;

- automatically determining a document profile for the document file from a plurality of document profiles available at the print service provider location and applying the determined document profile to the document file;

- automatically adjusting characteristics of the document file based on the determined document profile;

- automatically providing a remote proofing function for a customer of the document file to be printed and automatically tracking the printing of the document file by continuously monitoring and updating a status of the document file to be printed;

- creating a press ready file at the designer location using the automatically pre-flighted and automatically proofed document file and the updated device information from the print service provider location by verifying that required elements for completion of a production of a print job at the print service provider location are present in the print job based on the updated device information;

- submitting said press ready file to the print service provider location via an electronic network;

- verifying, at said print service provider location, that said press ready file will print at said print service provider location as designed at the designer location and, if not, correcting said press ready file to ensure printing

substantially as designed; and
performing automated shipping using, if created, said corrected press ready file, else using said verified press ready file.

8. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium encoded with said program product according to claim 7, wherein said step of creating a press ready file at the designer location further comprises performing automated remote shipping setup of said press ready file to remotely select the desired shipping options for said press ready file when printed at said print service provider location.

9. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium encoded with said program product according to claim 7, wherein said step of verifying, at said print service provider location, further comprises performing automated remote shipping setup.

10. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium encoded with said program product according to claim 7, wherein said step of automated shipping is performed and wherein an automated shipping device is used to ship said printed output in accordance with shipping instructions in said press ready file.

11. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium encoded with said program product according to claim 7, wherein said step of correcting includes reading shipping instructions prepared at the designer location and preparing appropriate corresponding instructions for an actual shipping device to be used at the print service provider location.

12. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium encoded with said program product according to claim 11, wherein said step of correcting further comprising updating a job ticket corresponding to said press ready file.

13. (Currently Amended) A system for managing workflow in a commercial printing environment including a designer location and a print service provider location, said system comprising:

means for establishing a link to the print service provider location from the designer location and obtaining updated device information including functional capabilities of a desired printing device and at least one production device;

means for automatically pre-flighting a received document file, including automatically checking for common errors associated during a prepress stage, automatically revising incorrect printing instructions and automatically adding missing printing instructions to the received document file;

automatically selecting a document profile for the document file from a plurality of document profiles available at the print service provider location and applying the selected document profile to the document file;

automatically adjusting characteristics of the document file based on the selected document profile;

means for automatically providing a remote proofing function for a customer of the document file to be printed and automatically tracking the printing of the document file by continuously monitoring and updating a status of the document file to be printed;

means for creating a press ready file at the designer location using the automatically pre-flighted and automatically proofed document file and the updated device information from the print service provider location by verifying that required elements for completion of a production of a print job at the print service provider location are present in the print job based on the updated device information;

means for submitting said press ready file to the print service provider location via an electronic network;

means for verifying, at said print service provider location, that said press ready file will print at said print service provider location as designed at the designer location and, if not, correcting said press ready file to ensure printing substantially as designed; and

means for performing automated shipping using, if created, said corrected press ready file, else using said verified press ready file.

14. (Previously Presented) A method of managing workflow according to claim 1, wherein the required elements present in the print job at the designer location include instructions for shipping.

15. (Previously Presented) A method of managing workflow according to claim 1, wherein the press ready file is corrected at the print service provider location by including corrected instructions for shipping.

16. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium encoded with said program product according to claim 7, wherein the required elements present in the print job at the designer location include instructions for shipping.

17. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium encoded with said program product according to claim 7, wherein the press ready file is corrected at the print service provider location by including corrected instructions for shipping.

18. (Previously Presented) A system for managing workflow according to claim 13, wherein the required elements present in the print job at the designer location include instructions for shipping.

19. (Previously Presented) A system for managing workflow according to claim 13, wherein the press ready file is corrected at the print service provider location by including corrected instructions for shipping.